

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 02364 151147Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /058 W

----- 102501

O R 151056Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4043

INFO USIA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 2364

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, PINT

SUBJECT: PRESS ACCREDITATION OF U.S. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES
REPORTED REVOKED

1. EMBASSY INFORMED THAT NEW YORK TIMES HAS FILED A DESPATCH
ALONG WITH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS CONCERNING THE FEB. 14 DECISION
OF THE INDIAN PRESS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE (CONSULTATIVE
GROUP OF PROFESSIONAL NEWSMEN WORKING WITH MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION OFFICIALS) REVOKING THE ACCREDITATION OF 57
INDIAN JOURNALISTS.

2. THOSE INVOLVED WITH U.S. AFFILIATIONS ARE PRAN SABHARWAL,
BUREAU CHIEF, BALTIMORE SUN, AND P.K. KHANNA, CONTACT
REPRESENTATIVE, NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY.

3. THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THESE
DECISIONS, NOTHING HAS BEEN PUBLISHED HERE ABOUT THEM, AND
THE PARTIES CONCERNED HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

4. HOWEVER, SABHARWAL ADVISES US THAT FRIENDS ON THE
ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE HAVE TOLD HIM THAT HIS NAME WAS ONE OF
11, FOR WHICH NO REASON FOR DISACCREDITATION WAS GIVEN,
ONLY THAT THEIR STATUS IS REVOKED FOR "SECURITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 02364 151147Z

REASONS."

5. P. K. KHANNA SAYS HIS ACTIVITIES FOR NBC WILL BE HAMPERED BY THIS MOVE.

6. ERNIE WEATHERALL, AN AMERICAN WHO RECENTLY STARTED FUNCTIONING HERE AS AN NBC CORRESPONDENT, SAYS THE DECISION ON KHANNA'S ACCREDITATION COMES AS NO SURPRISE TO HIM. WEATHERALL SAYS KHANNA IS NOT A JOURNALIST OR A CORRESPONDENT AND DOES ONLY MISCELLANEOUS AND VARIED JOBS IN CONNECTION WITH NBC ACTIVITIES HERE, AND THAT HE HAS ENJOYED ALL THE PRIVILEGES ASSOCIATED WITH PRESS ACCREDITATION WHILE NEVER REALLY FUNCTIONING AS A NEWSMAN.

7. AS WAS SITUATION WITH NEWSWEEK'S R. RAMANUJAM, SABHARWAL IMMEDIATELY FACES LOSS OF A CONCESSIONAL RENTAL OF GOVERNMENT OWNED RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS, TELEPHONE, ETC. KHANNA LIVES IN NON-GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND HAS AN NBC TELEPHONE.

8. DETAILS ARE GIVEN TO THE DEPARTMENT AT THIS EARLY STAGE AS STATESIDE PUBLISHED REPORTS MAY GENERATE QUESTIONS ON THIS LATEST ACTION IN INDIA TAKEN AGAINST U.S. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES.

9. FOR HONG KONG: ADVISE AL CHAMBERS/JACK REYNOLDS OF SITUATION AS IT EFFECTS NBC.
SAXBE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CENSORSHIP, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE02364
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760058-0190
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760246/aaaaboap.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS ACCREDIATION OF U.S. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES REPORTED REVOKED
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006